

TOWN OF EGREMONT, MASSACHUSETTS  
MEETING OF THE SELECT BOARD  
MINUTES

\*\*\*\*\*

Date: May 11, 2021

Time: 9:30am

Place: Via Zoom Meeting  
Egremont

Present via zoom meeting were Chairman George McGurn, Vice-Chair Lucinda Fenn-Vermeulen, Board member Mary Brazie.

Also present via zoom meeting were the following Planning Board members: Chairman Jared Kelly, Donna Bersch, Edward Regendahl and Matthew Bersani.

Others participating via zoom: Mary McGurn, L Williams, Eileen Vining, Christine Piper, William Martin, Chuck Ogden.

It was announced that the meeting is video and audio recorded.

NEW BUSINESS:

The first order of business was the joint meeting with the Planning Board to consider applicants to fill the vacancy on the Planning Board left by the April 25 resignation of Nick Keene. It was announced that applicant Stephen Goodman has withdrawn from consideration.

Planning Board Chairman Jared Kelly asked remaining applicant Mary McGurn why she wished to join the Board now after regularly participating in and acting as adjunct researcher for the Planning Board for quite some time now, and also for length of time was she considering be on the Board.

Mary McGurn reiterated what she had submitted in writing to the two Boards that she felt she could be a benefit to the Board having increased communications with voters, utilizing one of her many skills sets in digital and off line market communications. Having attended most of the Planning Board meetings in the past few years and engaging in helping to research issues she has kept herself informed and has been able to help the Planning Board. She is happy to roll up her shirt sleeves and continue to do those things as a Board member. She understands the complexity of drafting bylaws as a member of the Bylaw Review Committee.

All agreed that Mary McGurn's experience and knowledge would make her a welcome asset on the Planning Board.

Selectperson Brazie noted that the appointment is until May of 2022, at which time the balance of the term of office, to May of 2024, will be an elected seat on the May 2022 election ballot. Mary McGurn said she would be around as long as she could be an asset to the Planning Board.

Eileen Vining questioned whether proper procedure had been followed in publicly posting the vacancy. She asked that in light of the fact that the vacancy had not been publicly posted and in light of the family connection with Selectboard Chairman George McGurn that action be postponed. Legal Counsel was consulted on the procedure and confirmed that the vacancy could be filled as per MGL Chapter 41, Section 81A.

Selectboard Vice-Chair Vermeulen moved to appoint Mary McGurn for a term to expire in May of 2022. Selectperson Brazie seconded.

Mary McGurn was appointed by roll call vote 6 yes, Selectboard Chair McGurn abstaining. (Vermeulen - yes, Brazie - yes, Kelly - yes, Bersch - yes, Regendahl - yes, Bersani - yes.)

At 9:51 am a recess was called to 10am.

#### SCHEDULED ISSUES:

At 10:02 am the hearing for the transfer of the liquor license at Catamount Ski Resort from Boston Culinary Group, DBA Centerplate to Catamount Ski Resort LLC. Representing Catamount were manager Christine Piper and Attorney William Martin. Attorney Martin explained that the contract with the Boston Culinary Group, who has held the license at Catamount for at least 15 years, expires the end of May. The license obligated them to transfer at no cost to Catamount the license upon expiration of the contract. Catamount will be taking in house the food service and liquor sales. Christine Piper will remain the manager of record. There is no change to licensed facilities or the operations. Attorney Martin noted that the original CORI reports will be need to sent with the application to the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commisison(ABCC), the Town currently only has digital copies. Selectperson Brazie moved to approve the application as submitted pending final approval from the ABCC. Vice-Chair Vermeulen seconded. Motion passed unanimously in roll call vote. Hearing closed at 10:05 am.

#### BUDGET:

The Board voted unanimously to approve \$1,000 for HospiceCare in the Berkshires.

The Board voted unanimously to amend the Water Department's Utility budget request from \$10,000 to \$12,500. Due to a change in where the solar credits were being posted, the Water Departments electric charged has been higher than anticipated. The change was made by Juliette Haas without the Department's knowledge.

The Board agreed to increase the Assessor Consulting budget amount on the warrant from \$36,900 to \$37,000 to conform with the contract amount.

All budget items, with the exception of some wages, which are being recalculated, are final. The Finance Committee still needs to take action on 9 articles.

#### COVID-19:

Chuck Ogden noted that Community Health Program is giving first dose vaccines at French Park on Thursday without appointment. He is asking Personnel Director Cara Becker to relay that information to Town Accountant Paul Lisi who works on Thursday.

Board of Health Director Juliette Haas, who was not present at today's meeting, had emailed the Board suggesting that Police Chief LaForest speak with Pittsfield Police Chief Wynn about getting police officers vaccinated. It turns out that it was in fact Sheriff Bowler that the Chief LaForest was supposed to be asked to speak with not Chief Wynn. The Board agreed not to recommend this and to back off on pushing for vaccination. It is felt that as more and more people get vaccinated, employees with self-govern themselves.

Re-opening of Town Hall will be discussed at the May 18 meeting. It was noted that the Library has re-opened without any official notification to Town Hall.

#### SELECTMEN'S ITEMS:

The next meeting will be May 18. The Board agreed to meet on May 24 at 8am.

Vice-Chair Vermeulen applauded the Green Committee for a very well executed and extremely successful rain barrel distribution.

Meeting adjourned at 10:32am.

Mary Brazie,  
Office Administrator

minutes.21/may11

*The recording of the minutes is on record at the Town Hall for 90 days. Anyone who wishes to may obtain a copy or listen to the recording at Town Hall. Attachments are on file at Town Hall.*